

THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

Week of November 19, 2012

Vol. 32, Issue 11

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Co-curricular transcripts give students an edge

Andrea Drac
Staff Writer

The goal of every PUC student is to earn enough credits to graduate and have a successful career afterward. The co-curricular transcript is one way PUC tries to help students reach that goal.

Student Activities Coordinator Leticia Toma said the co-curricular transcript is a university document that supplements a student's academic transcript. It helps give PUC students a "competitive edge" for securing employment, receiving internship opportunities and scholarships and gaining admission to graduate school.

According to Toma, students can showcase educational experiences from outside the classroom while enrolled at PUC on the co-curricular transcript. Such experiences include honors and awards, involvement in student organizations, participation in intramural and intercollegiate athletics, educational workshops and training, community service and certifications.

"By attaching a CcT to their job application, graduate school application and/or scholarship application, students can set themselves apart from the competition. In today's highly competitive job market, new college graduates may find themselves competing with others who have more job experience in their field of study," Toma said. "A good strategy for students to offset having less job experience is to acquire internships and to get involved on campus and in the community. By doing so, students gain leadership skills, interpersonal communication skills, managerial skills and project management skills and they build additional talents. The first step is to get involved. Then the next step is to document that involvement."

Toma said students can begin the process of obtaining a co-curricular transcript by filling out an activity entry form from the Student Activities Office in SUL 104-B or online at the PUC website.

"To document your membership and leadership positions in Purdue Calumet student organizations, no additional documen-

tation is needed," Toma said. "For all other entries, a CcT Validation Form must be completed. Simply, complete sections A and B of the Validation Form and ask your advisor/supervisor, for that activity, to complete the rest of the form and submit it to the Student Activities Office."

Toma also said the first three steps need to be repeated at least once a semester.

"Co-curricular Transcript information becomes a permanent part of students' records, so it's available to students even after they graduate from Purdue Calumet," Toma said. Some employers believe having a co-curricular transcript can impact the job hiring process.

"The co-curricular transcript is going to be a differentiator among job candidates," Vice President and Director of Human Resources of Centier Bank in Merrillville Chrisanne Christ said in a statement about the co-curricular transcript on the PUC website. "It will show that the person is being honest and trans-

See CCT page 4

Student Ambassadors gain organization status

Lauren Van
Staff Writer

After years of welcoming new and prospective students to PUC, the Student Ambassador Program became an official organization this semester.

The Student Ambassador Program is responsible for promoting PUC through peer assistance, illustrating student success and general community awareness. Student Ambassadors are select PUC students who volunteer and contribute their time to serve as tour guides, peer recruiters, official greeters, tele-counselors, ushers, public speakers, role models and testimonials of student success. Some of the events that Student Ambassadors volunteer for include campus tours, PUC's open house, scholarship and recognition dinners, information stations, college fairs, community events, high school and college visits, career fairs and commencements.

Emily Mastej became the president of the Purdue Calumet Ambassadors Program after her spring internship with the Office of Admissions. At first, she



Photo Provided

PUC's Student Ambassadors are happy to be part of a new organization on campus.

gathered ambassadors for university events and set up scheduling for prospective student campus tours. When the PCA became an official student organization, Emily was promoted to president. She has participated in year-round campus tours, as well as Back to School Saturday and other banquets. She has also been involved in Building Community Through the Arts.

Mastej said her favorite activity is the campus tours.

"It gives me the chance to meet students who are interested in Purdue and hopefully get them super excited about becoming a

student here. I want to put a good name to PUC and get students excited about the things we have to offer," Mastej said.

As president, Emily works closely with the tour director in the Office of Admissions to make sure each tour is assigned a guide. She serves as the primary connection between the PCA and the Office of Admissions, since the PCA is the main recruiting organization for PUC.

"I am in constant communication with all of the ambassadors

See PCA page 4

SGA introduces 'Whatcha Want Wednesdays'



Photo: Rebecca Rossi

A student writes down his concerns with PUC at the SGA's 'Whatcha Want Wednesdays' table in the SUL Concourse.

Rebecca Rossi
Staff Writer

this time, SGA members distribute blank paper to students who would like to voice their thoughts about PUC.

"Whatcha Want Wednesdays" emerged on Oct. 8 as a method for students to communicate with the Student Government Association. Members of the SGA hope "Whatcha Want Wednesdays" will allow them to gather ideas for change on campus, inspired by students' needs.

At least one SGA member can be found each Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Student Union & Library Building Concourse, near the elevator. During

"In order for us to make decisions to make campus life better for all students, it is imperative that we collect information from every student on campus," said SGA Chief of Staff Greg Fouladi, who is a senior political science student.

The SGA is looking for thoughts of change, concerns and students' likes or dislikes about campus.

See WWW page 4

Students erect box city in Alumni Hall



Photo: Morgan Walker

Students play chess using a box as a table during the Campout for Hunger on Nov. 15 in Alumni Hall.



Photo: Morgan Walker

Tau Phi Sigma members prepare their homes for the night during the Campout for Hunger on Nov. 15 in Alumni Hall.

Dear friends and colleagues of our campus community:



Adam Cooper
Senator for the School of Management

My name is Adam Cooper, and it is my honor and privilege to serve as your Senator of the School of Management. Representing the views, opinions, and aspirations of management students to their Student Government constitutes the highest importance of my senatorial responsibilities. In addition to my representative obligations, I am thrilled to lead the Rules & Internal Affairs Committee, which is one of eight standing committees of the Student Senate. The charges of my committee include interpreting our governing documents and proposing amendments for their improvement.

While I fully support the collective goals of Student Government, my personal aspirations include increasing student participation and empowering them to accept *active roles on campus*, clarifying the procedures by which our organization operates, and determining the most prevalent concerns on students' minds. As Student Government reflects the tempo of the Student Body, assessing its priorities is integral to serving it effectively. Of greatest importance, however, is spreading knowledge of the existence and capabilities of Student Government among students: When students support their Student Government, its abilities to serve their interests multiply.

After three semesters of active involvement as a Representative, the Secretary of Technology, and now Senator, I have developed an unbreakable commitment to this organization and the University overall. Purdue University Calumet has become my "home away from home," and I am committed to creating exceptional experiences for students inside and outside of the classroom. Please contact me at pucmanage.gov@gmail.com with your questions about Student Government, to submit comments or suggestions for initiatives that you would like us to pursue, or to become involved. I look forward to working with you!

Paid for by the Student Government Association

What's Going On?

A look around PUC...

An update on the health of The Chronicle

The Chronicle will most likely not be shutting down or going on hiatus. We also still need your help. However, to clear up any confusion or possible rumors, the PUC administration had nothing to do with the possibility of The Chronicle going on hiatus. If there is any question regarding this, please read the editorial printed on Nov. 5. It can be found on www.pucchronicle.com. That is the completely honest reason why The Chronicle was in danger of being put on an indefinite hiatus.

Rainbow Shelter collection

A group of students from an ENGL105 course are collecting donations to the Rainbow Shelter for Battered Women.

They will be in the SUL Concourse Mondays 12pm-1pm November 19, 26, & December 3.

A donations Drop-Off Box located in CLO216.

Contact AnJee Deal (708-515-7894) or stop by their table for more information.

Celebration of Innovation

We are excited to announce a Celebration of Innovation through a number of events at the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation (CIVS), Purdue University Calumet on Thursday, November 29, 2012.

The day will kick off at 8:30 am with an Award Ceremony, where the CIVS will receive the trophy for the 2012 Chanute Prize. This prize is given by the Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana in recognition for outstanding team innovation (<http://webs.purduecal.edu/civs/2012/10/24/civs-chanute/>). You are cordially invited to join Chancellor Keon, Vice Chancellor Rogers, and the CIVS team to celebrate this recognition of Purdue Calumet's innovation. The ceremony will be followed by a Student Research Showcase with posters and interactive demos.

A Coffee Hour will be held at noon to introduce Purdue Calumet's new Masters of Science degree in Modeling, Simulation & Visualization (MSMSV). This degree is interdisciplinary in nature and is the first of its kind in Indiana(<http://webs.purduecal.edu/gradschool/files/2012/10/Master-of-Science-in-Modeling-Simulation-and-Visualization.pdf>). CIVS will serve as the laboratory for the required Directed Project courses. Examples of student projects and more information on MSMSV will be presented in the afternoon.

For more information, please contact Linda Robinson at 219-989-2765, civs@purduecal.edu.

Anyone interested in publicizing events, organizations, clubs or departments in "What's Going On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit submissions to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at pucchronicle@gmail.com or campus cc: mail - Chronicle or to the newsroom located in the Student Union and Library building, room 344H.

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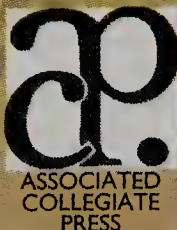
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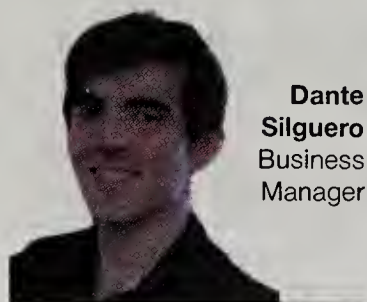
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Fight the greed



Dante Silguero
Business Manager

The elections are over. This could mean one of the two things: either Obama sticks with his promises in the 2008 election of change and hope, or we have another four years of compromise. In previous negotiations with the Republican-controlled House, John Boehner said once that he got 98 percent of what he wanted in negotiations with the president, but that he wanted those other 2 percent. This, ladies and gentlemen, is greed, and it is what controls most of America's men and women in power.

It was greed that led millionaires to donate unprecedented amounts of campaign financing to Mitt Romney. I'm also convinced that it was greed that led Romney to run for the presidency. After all, if he were to win, he would have saved millions in taxes.

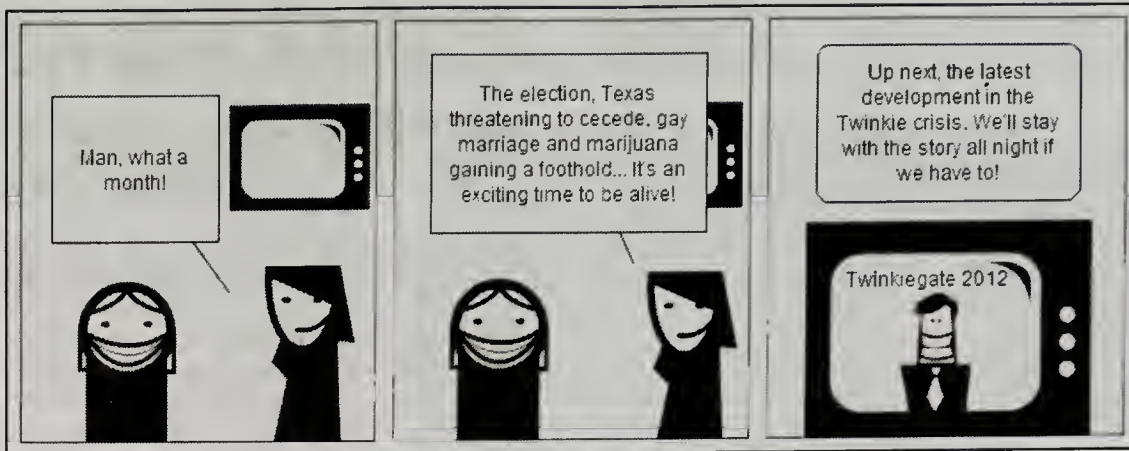
Greed took yet another form recently when Papa John's owner said he would have to cut hours for his workers in order to afford them healthcare through the Affordable Healthcare Act. He first claimed that it would cost in 14 cents more per pizza, but independent researchers found that message incorrect. In fact, it would only cost, at the most, six cents more per pizza in order to afford the healthcare.

Some might argue that six cents more for pizza is a lot, which is true. Considering he sells millions of pizzas a year, six cents might add up. However, look at the fact that he's giving away 2,000,000 pizzas as a football promotion. Does he expect us to believe that his company can't afford six cents more per pizza?

Papa John isn't the only man who has done something like this. Plenty of millionaire business owners and CEOs have threatened workers if Obama was re-elected.

America is no longer the land of opportunity for all but for the select few who have a trust fund bigger than \$1,000,000. If we look at who the number one candidate for the Republican party was this year we see the complete disconnect of the rich from the rest of America. When Mitt Romney stated that the best thing to do for students that didn't want to take out loans for college was to borrow money from their parents, we see the disconnect.

We must bridge this disconnect between those in power and those who want to get ahead in life. We must fight for the rights to have an education, healthcare and a home. We the people have the power to change this fallen nation back into the powerhouse it once was, but only if we stand up and make our voices be heard to those who represent us.



THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET CHRONICLE

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Jessica Gerlich, Editor-in-Chief
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Bill Koester, Sports Editor
Brian Lynch, Copy Editor
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Sammy Gonzales, Production Manager
Dante Vidal Silguero, Business Manager

Letter to the editor

Dear Chronicle,

I vehemently oppose The Chronicle's editorial illustration and Bill Koester's column for the week of Nov. 5 that encouraged citizens to vote. I found your encouragement of voting shortsighted at its best and sensationalism at its worst.

Your editorials made it seem that all Americans have a civic duty to vote, and they should be ashamed if they don't, when in fact they should be proud. They should be proud to not participate in an election that is nothing more than a shell game. Voting or encouraging it just gives the election(s) the legitimacy it doesn't deserve. Politicians are the most unprincipled humans on earth and not voting is an absolute refusal to be fooled by their rhetoric.

This idea that, "If you don't vote, you have no right to complain," is absurd. The opposite is true. The real saying should be that if you do vote you have no right to complain. If voters really believe their vote makes a difference, then save the complaints. Voters have had their say. Voters have gotten the results of a system they believe in. Nonvoters have the most "right" to complain because they have not consented or endorsed any candidate's policies or the way they are chosen.

Not voting is an endorsement for real change. Voting is not an act of empowerment, but an act of government control. Voting

makes it seem as if citizens have some control in government, when they don't. It makes it seem okay when the government does evil things or has evil policies because we all had a "say." It's not okay, even if 51 percent of the people agree to it.

The problem is not nonvoters, but the system. To quote the column and Gandhi, "You must be the change you want to see in the world." Don't vote. Don't give the system your consent. Don't buy the lie. Our current system is deeply flawed and participating in it just perpetuates the problem.

Finally, the column ends with, "If you can't make the time to vote, don't be surprised if your country works for someone else: be it corporations, special interest lobbies, religious zealots or just any madman with money." Even if the whole country voted, I doubt any of these groups would go away. A vote will not cause special interest groups to not be interested in their cases or corporations to not seek bailouts. Once again, it's the system, not the voters.

My views are represented by me and not by any politician in D.C. Not voting means I have no group the right to represent me. Voting pigeon holes thoughts into a collective left or right camp when they are individually our own. I deny the propaganda that we the people are truly the government, and I cannot have it on my moral conscience to participate in any election they

run. I also quit playing games of pretend at the age of four and will not act like there are any substantive differences between the candidates.

Sincerely,
Brandon Utley,
senior economics major

Mr. Utley,

You misquoted my column "Voting is just a start" in your letter and seem to have misunderstood the point I was trying to make. The column actually said, "If you can't make the time to do that, and simply vote and do nothing else, don't be surprised if your country works for someone else; be it corporations, special interest lobbies, religious zealots or just any madman with money." The point was that if people want to make real changes in society, they have to get involved in civic affairs and really work for it, and not just wait for elected officials to change things for them. While I did say that citizens should vote (and I do see some value in voting that you decidedly do not), never did I suggest that simply doing so would solve all our problems or make the aforementioned interest groups suddenly go away. In fact, I directly made statements to the contrary.

Sincerely,
Bill Koester, sports editor

COMMENTS?

Write to us and see your thoughts in print!

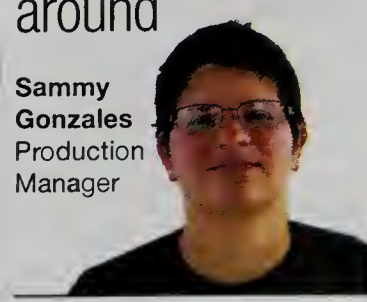
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The views expressed in submitted commentaries and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the writer's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better chance of publication. All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Deadline for submissions is the Friday before the publication.

Readers can contact Dante at
chronicle.businessmanager@
gmail.com or (219) 989-2547.

Don't mope around

Sammy Gonzales
Production Manager



Don't you feel you're helpless at these worst scenarios?

I know I have gone through hell and back. The way people gave advice on how to be strong; it seems easier to say than done. In reality, darling, it takes mentally and physically to rise back up on the ground and show the world that you're standing stronger than ever.

Not a lot of people have that ability to stand strong. You may wonder why people are on crack, heroin and all other drugs and/or alcohol. People just could not handle the pain and the ability to get themselves back on the track. Most of them went to drugs to ease their pains, to forget the horrible memories, and to get away from the reality. I know because I have been there.

Imagine yourself in their shoes and how would you help yourself?

Words as advices seem easy to say out loud, but to the people who could not understand the encouragement within words may cause their mentally and physically confusing. They will feel lost at many different paths, longing for one to start new or to get back on track. We are humans, and we do give up easily.

It takes time, for real.

Failure, the word itself, should not exist. Failure does not mean you can just throw everything away for one small thing. I know how one small thing can affect a lot of things in life. It is okay to take one little step every day to get back up. Like baby steps, you see how many days it took one baby finally to have the ability walk all by herself/himself? Not one day, definitely not. It takes time, for real.

There are a couple of friends that I know that are going through hard times, I am feeling helpless because I speak to them with advices that seem easily done, but not able to have the ability to help them build their mentally and physically to be strong again. It just kills me inside slowly.

Every little thing, I wish I could rewind and do it differently. I have no time to regret right now, but to know that I can do better the next time it happens.

For you people out there who are going through tough times, you are not alone. Be brave to ask for help, ask your family who you're able to trust, your friends, your workers, or your classmates.

So don't continue moping around, darling. Get yourself back together on the right track, and be stronger than ever. You can do it. It takes time. I believe in you.

Readers can contact Sammy at
chronicle.production@gmail.
com or (219) 989-2547.

WWW

continued from page 1

"Our goal is to create a strong relationship with PUC students, and so far we have had a great response," said SGA Secretary of Public Relations Lauren Avans, who is a junior biology major.

A few trends have appeared in student responses as the weeks have gone by. Demands for a new sports complex for home games, dedicated advisors and improved maintenance of bathrooms are most prominent in these requests. Avans said the students' desire for bathroom maintenance includes repairing locks on stall doors and replacing broken or stolen hangers.

On Oct. 24, the SGA noted student responses began to branch out. Freshman mechanical engineering student Chris Ramos said he thought the game room should be updated with more televisions and new gaming systems. Another student, freshman mechanical engineering major Luke Peksenak, said there should be more staplers available for student use.

"I think we should have clocks in all of the classrooms

because sometimes I never know how much time is left," said Emma Evans, a freshman pre-veterinary student.

Students also have the opportunity to purchase student discount cards during "Whatcha Want Wednesdays." The card costs \$2 for students, \$5 for faculty and \$10 for the general public or anyone's second card purchase. Some students have voiced approval of the cards, while others felt some adjustments needed to be made.

"I like them. They are beneficial and cheap. I think we should offer surveys to the whole university to see what should be on the card," said Jessica Sinclair, a sophomore pre-pharmacy student.

If a student wants a chance to stand on their soapbox for a while or would like to buy a student discount card, the SGA will be waiting for them on "Whatcha Want Wednesdays."

SGA, Student Activities provide funds for student groups

Veronica Kelley
Chronicle Correspondent

Ranging from major-related organizations to special interest groups, such as the Amateur Radio Society and Vanity Modeling Troupe, many student groups at PUC rely on funding to conduct their activities.

Organizations have an initial budget of \$100 per academic year that the university reimburses once they have provided receipts for any purchases. Student organizations are required to fill out applications in order to receive funding if they feel they need it.

"\$100 is a minimal amount that student groups can expect to use throughout the academic year, but that there are other opportunities for organizations to receive money. The Office of Student Activities tries to financially assist student organizations on campus as much as possible through different fundraisers," Assistant Director for Campus Life Debbie Bachmann said.

The SGA allows organizations on campus to apply for additional leadership funds, with the maximum amount reaching \$500. Organizations have to fill out an application which is reviewed and voted on by the SGA Student Council Senate.

In order to receive a leadership fund from SGA, student organizations must follow a set of guidelines, which include promoting educational values and leadership skills and using funds only for registration, travel, lodging, expenses and meals. As well as providing leadership funds, the SGA also contributes one vote to the activities committee at PUC on what the overall budget should be for student organizations.

Another way student organizations can receive additional funding is through the use of fundraising. PUC's student organizations Web page provides forms that members need to fill out, including the Fundraising Sales Agreement if they will be selling products from an outside corporation. The vendor agrees

to provide products to a specific organization, presumably for the exposure, and the sponsored organization gets to deposit a percentage of the profits into their account.

Student organizations on campus exist to unite PUC's student body; however they also participate in events to help others around the entire community. On Nov. 5, students participated in PUC's Penny Wars competition, an annual fundraiser provided by the Office of Student Activities. Various organizations from PUC's campus, ranging from the Pre-Pharmacy Club to sororities and fraternities, collected pennies and other coins to support United Way of Lake County, an organization designed to improve children's educational experiences and stabilize family life.

This year the winning team was Purdue University Gamers Guild, which raised \$56.90. With PUGG's contributions and all the other organizations, PUC was able to donate a total of \$1,101.11 to United Way.

PCA

continued from page 1

about upcoming events and meetings. If you ask any of them, sometimes I have too much contact: crazy ton of emails," she Mastej joked.

Mastej likes that the PCA gives students the opportunity to get involved in a prestigious organization on campus since they are representing the university. However, she wishes that more PUC students were aware of the PCA.

"I believe we are a really important organization on campus and important for the campus. Many students do not even know who we are; I hope that we can be just as easily recognized as some

of the other organizations on campus," Mastej said.

Steven Gamboa joined the PCA over a year ago after he received an email about the program.

"It made me feel special that someone was reaching out to me to represent PUC," Gamboa said.

As chairman of engagement, Gamboa's responsibilities include overseeing, organizing and standing as the main leadership role of the Engagement Committee. He also plans and creates social events throughout the year. He serves as the primary link between the committee and Mastej, and he also works with her to cre-

ate a goal report for each academic year.

"What I enjoy the most about the PCA program is the chance to be affiliated with the Purdue University Calumet in another way than just being a student here. I enjoy the fact that as a student ambassador, we are the faces of the university," Gamboa said.

When prospective students come to PUC for college tours, Gamboa and other student ambassadors are the first people they meet.

"We are the first students that share our experiences with those prospective students and explain to them why PUC is such

a fantastic college to attend," he said. "I am ecstatic that PCA is now finally a student organization at PUC. We are finally getting the recognition for our contribution to the university."

For student ambassadors, being a member of the PCA is a good resume builder. According to Gamboa, though, it is much more than that.

"You should not join this program just for that fact alone. You should join this program because you love your school and you want to demonstrate that love by being involved in it," Gamboa said.

Gamboa said that the organization exists for students who

want to be associated with PUC on a more personal level, for students who want to represent PUC in a professional manner and for students to strengthen their communicative and leadership skills.

PUC also benefits from the program because it is promoted in a fun and respectful way.

"The prospective students visiting the campus benefit from this program because they are one step closer to deciding which college is the one right for them," Gamboa said.

CcT

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parent about their involvement, which is critical to any employer. We look forward to seeing them from future applicants."

Director of Human Resources and Regional Director of The Times Barb Mason said the co-curricular transcript alone would not make an impact in the job hiring process.

"The full person and their experiences are what matter most when considering an applicant for

a position," Mason said. "I want to know what they have done in school, in their work, in their activities. I want to hear how they make decisions. What have they learned? What have they done wrong and what did they learn from both experiences? So the transcript, in itself, would not sway my decision to hire a person. But if they can talk about the things they did and

how it impacted them, that would make the difference."

Toma encourages PUC students to get involved on campus and develop skills that can make them more marketable.

"Not all universities offer a co-curricular program, so Purdue Calumet students should take advantage of the competitive edge they can receive by creating their CcT," Toma said.



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Nicolay and Shields stun the Grindhouse

Jessica Gerlich
Editor-in-Chief

Franz Nicolay and Lou Shields brought eclectic instruments and eager patrons to Grindhouse Cafe in Griffith on Nov. 17.

Franz Nicolay

"The stage was set in the first phrases with Nicolay's alliterated a cappella bellow of "Betty Botter bought a bottle of bitters from the bar/ Major Matt, he mixed his mild martinis in a jar/ This doggerel is my private hell, these words whose meanings never gel/ I'm gonna find you, wherever you are," after which he added accordion playing to the mix, as the audience's jaws dropped.

Dressed in a suit complete with a red pocket square, Nicolay made it look easy as he belted his full-throated melodies and witty banter while playing banjo, acoustic guitar and accordion. Heavy and light emotions were evoked with every note and felt throughout the small, crowded coffee shop. His charisma was astounding.

Between each song was a perfectly-executed story. New Hampshire-turned-Brooklyn

native Nicolay is a storyteller as much as he is a brilliant musician. His sentimental lyrics and stories about travels, struggle, living free, sometimes made-up people and the planned-but-never-executed Berlin-to-Baghdad railroad are catching. In the middle of "The Migration of the Cuckoo," he compared the feelings of love and revenge.

"There's a certain overlap in the experience. You go to bed every night thinking of that one person. You wake up in the morning thinking of that one person – and what you're going to do to them the next time you see them," Nicolay said, while plucking the banjo lightly.

Nicolay has taken his turn in the world of musicians, and it shows. After working with dozens of artists, including stints in The World/Inferno Friendship Society and The Hold Steady, the sounds of his solo work are in a completely different place. And listening is worth every second.

Visit www.pucchronicle.com for audio clips from the Grindhouse show on Nov. 17.

See Nicolay page 6

'Skyfall' is Bond's finest hour



Photo: thesevensees.com

Javier Bardam plays Mr. Silver, Bond's menacing and psychotic villain, in the latest film, 'Skyfall.'

Bill Koester
Sports Editor

Daniel Craig is easily the best James Bond, ever.

Bond movies were entertaining before he took over the role, but they were a bit ridiculous. The plots were very outlandish, and the bad guys were more goofy than evil. There was arguably always a comedic undertone, too, as Bond never seemed to break a sweat or look surprised by any of his experiences.

"Casino Royale" in 2006 did away with most of that, dropping Bond into the real world of the 21st Century. Craig brought

a much-needed edge and cunning that made the character much more compelling. The suave demeanor and cold wit people expect from Bond are still there, but he actually seems like a real secret agent now.

"Skyfall" is the third movie with Craig in the lead, and it might be the best Bond film ever made.

The movie begins with an amazing chase through Turkey involving motorcycles and a train (one of several great action sequences), which ends with Bond apparently dead, and the theft of a hard drive listing double agents in terrorist organizations. Soon, whoever obtained the list starts

toying with MI6 head M (Judi Dench) by releasing the names online, resulting in the agents being executed by the groups in which they operate. As M faces an inquiry on her leadership, Bond sets out to find whoever stole the list.

"Casino Royale" and "Quantum of Solace" did not follow the standard Bond formula, as they were re-establishing the character's origins. This time around, all the familiar trappings and plot devices are there, and yet it is still different from the Bond movies that came before. It is darker and much more character-driven.

See Skyfall page 6

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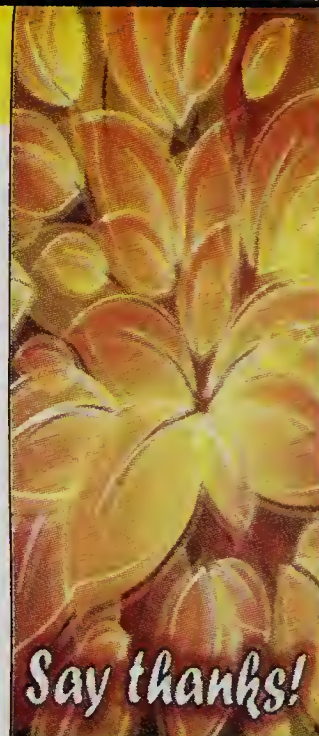
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**PURDUE
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Nicolay

continued from page 5

Franz Nicolay's newest album, "Do the Struggle" can be purchased at www.franznicolay.com.

Lou Shields

Chicagoan musician, artist and skateboarder Shields opened the show with a heartfelt set of bluesy, Americana tunes. As he played through short songs with a country feel, he told stories of his travels, his life as a musician and his instruments.

The most notable thing about Shields is his use of homemade instruments, from bottle caps and an Illinois license plate nailed to broken skateboard decks as "stompers" for percussion, to each of his guitars having a specific story. One guitar, dubbed the Shitar, is beautifully crafted out of a skateboard ramp. He found another hand-carved archtop guitar in Idaho during his travels.

As he is from the Chicago-land area, Shields has played

many times at Paul Henry's Art Gallery in Hammond, though not as much recently, as he has been busy playing music in other places.

He told the story of the song "Hobo Tired," about his great grandfather and uncle who lived through the Great Depression and were forced to travel to find work. Another tune lent the story of the Charo, a dark spirit in the night rumored to steal souls.

Perhaps the best song of the set was the intense "Lonesome Road," where Shields tuned his archtop guitar to an open G chord, turned it on its side and sang about "travelling so my mind don't come undone."

Lou Shields is playing at Reggie's Music Joint in Chicago on Nov. 30 and Zombie Club in Crown Point on Dec. 1.

For more information or to purchase an album, visit www.reverbnation.com/loushields.



Photo: Doug Van Ramshorst

Franz Nicolay plays 'The Hearts of Boston' on his accordion at the Grindhouse Cafe on Nov. 17.

Skyfall

continued from page 5

Craig is firmly in place as Bond, owning the role whether he is in the heat of battle, dropping a one-liner or getting the ladies. But he is a much more real Bond than anyone who came before him. He bleeds; he does not just walk away unscathed from a fight, and he has human feelings.

He is not the only character who gets a meatier part. Dench, who has played M since Pierce Brosnan took over as Bond in 1995, advances from simply a dignified voice of authority to a vital supporting role. More than just his boss, she comes off like a matriarchal figure to Bond, as their relationship is revealed as more than mere loyalty and professional respect, yet remains at arm's length because of the nature of their work.

Other Oscar-level talent in supporting roles includes Ralph Fiennes and Albert Finney, and the roles of Q (Ben Whishaw) and Moneypenny (Naomie Harris) are active participants in the story. The way the movie takes longtime characters and turns them into major, important supporting roles is comparable to what Christopher Nolan's Batman movies did for previously minor charac-

ters like Alfred and Commissioner Gordon.

As cyber-terrorist Raoul Silva, Javier Bardem is like no other Bond villain. Instead of a colorful megalomaniac, he is a truly evil force of vengeance, with intensity and brutality reminiscent of his famous role in "No Country for Old Men." He is easily one of 007's most formidable foes, and one of the few who could really take him in a fight.

The movie hints at plot points that could make for intriguing future storylines, and puts in place the last few pieces of the Bond mythos that were missing from the first two films, obviously priming the audience for sequels. More films of this caliber are an excellent prospect, but as it stands on its own, "Skyfall" is one fantastic movie.



Rating System

★★★★★	ESSENTIAL
★★★★	EXCELLENT
★★★	AVERAGE
★★	POOR
★	AWFUL

Kaling moves to center stage in 'The Mindy Project'

Jessi VanKley
Entertainment Writer

Fox's new comedy "The Mindy Project" is all about new beginnings. Dr. Mindy Lahiri (Mindy Kaling, "The Office") hits rock bottom in her dating life when she finds herself incarcerated for disturbance of the peace after ruining her ex-boyfriend's wedding, and then takes a drunken ride on her bicycle into a pool. Reaching this low point in her social endeavors causes Mindy to attempt to turn her life around, or at least look for a boyfriend with a job and stock options.

"The Mindy Project" is a sarcastic, quirk-filled comedy with great potential. Kaling takes center stage, moving from back corner cubicle in "The Office" to successful doctor and partner in a practice. Kaling's biting humor and witty retorts make her both a great actress and writer for the show. Mindy's often overdramatic insights and actions are played well by Kaling, who is not afraid to add a dash of crazy, such as using her hair as a curtain to take pictures of potential dates. Along with Kaling and her quirky acting is co-star Chris Messina playing Dr. Danny Castellano, a hard-headed doctor who never tires of giving Mindy a hard time about her weight and her ideas of romance. Messina plays the intro-



Photo: spoiletv.com

Dr.Mindy Lahiri, played by comedic Mindy Kaling, discusses her dramatic life issues with Dr.Danny Castellano (Chris Messina).

verted divorcee who enjoys a good Saturday night caesarian-section. With a constantly furrowed brow and a frown to accompany every wacky idea Mindy has, Danny becomes reminiscent of Dr. Perry Cox from "Scrubs" with a dash more charm.

Along with Mindy and Danny is partner Dr. Jeremy Reed (Ed Weeks). Dapper, suave and always vying for a woman's attention and then some, Jeremy is a handsome man encapsulating trouble. His trouble especially affects Mindy, who has the occasional overnighter with Jeremy and is trying to kick the habit in order to part from her non-progressive dating life.

Aside from Mindy's medical partners, she has a few other co-workers who may not be the brightest but can brighten up her day. Between receptionists Betsy (Zoe Jarman), who is innocent and laughably naive, and Shauna

(Amanda Setton), who clubs with the best of them, and nurse Morgan (Ike Barinholtz), an ex-convict starved for attention, Mindy always has someone standing up for her or helping her through relationship crises. But, best intentions aside, the three always seem to be a step or two behind.

With this cast of fun and quirky people, "The Mindy Project" is sure to grow. From scenes in the same episode covering how to find a witty Halloween costume, like Dirty Harry Potter or Lil' Wayne on the Prairie, and Danny trying to get his driver's license without hitting trick-or-treaters, "The Mindy Project" offers 30 minutes of laugh-out-loud, forehead-slapper moments that will reassure many viewers of their own life decisions as well as remind them that it is never too late for a fresh start.

"The Mindy Project" airs on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. on Fox.



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Intramural floor hockey championship



Photo: Jessica Calhoun

Mighty Ducks pose with the Cohen Cup alongside Intramural Director Matt Dudzik (left). The team beat the defending champion Team America two games to nothing.



Photo: Jessica Calhoun

Team America and Mighty Ducks shake hands after Game 2 of the Floor Hockey Finals on Nov. 13. Mighty Ducks won Game 1 the previous week 11-2, and took the Cohen Cup after a 6-3 Game 2 Victory.

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Soccer

continued from page 8



Photo Provided

Juan Lopez goes for a goal.

"Maybe one day I'll get my own soccer facility," Lopez mused.

Another difference Lopez notices is the Northwest Indiana weather, which contrasts considerably from that of Texas. He got his first taste of the cold of the Region during some of the wetter days this fall.

"It's colder and a little windier than Texas," Lopez said. "I've gotten used to it, but people tell me I haven't felt the cold yet."

Lopez said he gets along with his teammates pretty well. Despite having players from all different backgrounds (not only different parts of the country, but even some international countries), Lopez says rooming in the dorms is like a family.

"It's fun knowing the players from all their different backgrounds, their foods, and everything," Lopez said.

Drzewiecki described Lopez as the "class clown" of the team.

"He keeps the guys loose, and they really are drawn to him," Drzewiecki said. "It isn't [just] because he's a great talent. It's because of what he's like as a person."

Now that their first season is done, Lopez and his teammates have taken it upon themselves to stay active in the offseason. A big part of this is working out together in the Fitness & Recreation Center.

"People are hitting the gym, trying to get more competitive in size," Lopez said.

The team also meets once or twice a week to kick around the ball at the park. Lopez said they are even thinking about forming an intramural soccer team in the spring to keep themselves sharp for next season.

Only a freshman, already elite



Juan Lopez in action against Madonna on Sept. 16.

Photo Provided

Bill Koester
Sports Editor

Despite being only a freshman, PUC men's soccer midfielder Juan Lopez has already experienced soccer on the biggest stage in the U.S.

On his 15th birthday in 2008, Lopez got the opportunity of a lifetime: a chance to play in Major League Soccer's Houston Dynamo organization.

It all began with a phone call from a friend.

"My friend called and asked to borrow my shin guards," Lopez said. "I asked him why, and he told me that the Dynamo were holding open tryouts."

"I rushed over there with him. I had to borrow my cousin's shoes. I'm a size ten-and-a-half, and he's a nine, but I needed shoes to try out."

Of more than 100 players who tried out, Lopez was one of only three chosen by the Dynamo to join their soccer academy.

"Your friend calls about borrowing shin guards, and this ends up happening," Lopez said. "It was a good [birthday] present."

The Houston native and first-generation American did not come from a soccer-playing household, but he picked up the game playing with childhood friends. He went on to play for Chavez High in Houston his freshman through junior years, where he lettered in the sport all three years.

During his senior year of high school, Lopez played at the Dynamo Soccer Academy, which trains teenagers ages 15 to 18. He credits the experience with helping him become an even better player.

"It's a different level," Lopez said. "It's a lot more challenging. You got to put in a lot more time to keep up with these guys."

Lopez was a member of the Dynamo reserve squad, which is the second tier of the organization. Even though the reserves train and sit on the bench with the first squad (the main team), they

are not considered professional athletes themselves (hence, the reason Lopez and other reserves are allowed to play college soccer).

The biggest day of his life took place June 16 of this year. The reserves from the Dynamo took on their rivals FC Dallas at BBVA Compass Stadium in Houston. Generally, a new player at Lopez's level gets confined to the bench and only plays a few minutes, but he ended up playing for 45.

"I was pretty nervous," he said, "but it feels good going out there. The regular players support you, and you have your family cheering for you."

Over the course of the match, the Dynamo reserves went from a 1-0 deficit in the first half to a 3-2 win. Being on the field for a victory was a big positive in Lopez's mind.

"I never thought I could be there," Lopez said. "It's a great feeling."

Just appearing in such a high-profile match would seemingly make him a hot commodity among college recruiters. Well before appearing with the Dynamo reserves, however, Lopez had caught the eye of PUC Head Coach James Drzewiecki. He discovered Lopez at the U.S. Soccer Development Academy Winter Showcase in Florida.

"What I saw in him was a player who was both talented and respectful, and that was a big thing with me," Drzewiecki said. "I was fortunate enough to establish a good relationship with him ... and carry that over into my tenure at Purdue University Calumet. I think personal trust had a lot to do with it."

"His signing sent a clear message that Purdue Calumet isn't aiming to be some glorified rec-league team," Drzewiecki said. "We can be a major player in the recruiting game and our program has a chance to be very special as it develops."

Lopez said Drzewiecki really sold him on PUC.

"My dream was to play in college and graduate," Lopez said. "James really got me that confidence."

A Purdue education was also a big factor.

"The [Purdue] diploma's very huge," Lopez said.

The PUC soccer experience is different from the Dynamo Academy. Without their own field, the Peregrines have to practice and play home matches at local high schools.

These humble beginnings do not bother Lopez, though. On the contrary, he is proud to be part of building the program into something big.

"I started playing on small fields myself," he said. "Hopefully, [the team] grows faster than me."

Lopez scored two goals this season, and the team finished with a record of 3-8-1. Despite the losing record, Lopez sees some positives looking ahead.

"I knew it was going to be challenging our first year," he said. "We're still getting used to the formations. But everyone was excited with the first year."

He also pointed out that final scores do not tell the whole story, as the team played neck and neck with several opponents.

"We need to put the ball in the goal," Lopez said. "We dominated some teams but didn't score."

Also new to Lopez is the near-universal college experience of moving away from home, living on his own and balancing classes with the rest of his life.

"You got to be more responsible [in college], learn to use your time wisely," he said. "It's kind of tough. As time goes on, I might join some [campus] groups, get to know more people."

Lopez has chosen entrepreneurship as his major and hopes to one day run his own business.

See Soccer page 7

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